



Pittwater House

Class of 2021 Achievements and Results

2021



Pittwater House 70 South Creek Road,
Collaroy NSW 2097 PO Box 244,
Manly NSW 1655 Australia

+ 61 2 9972 5789

[facebook.com/tphs.collaroy](https://www.facebook.com/tphs.collaroy)

pittwaterhouse.com.au



Result Highlights

98.25



Top ATAR
Dux of Boys'
Grammar

Jeremy Southwell

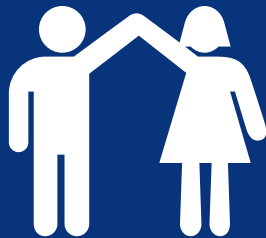
94.1



Dux of Girls'
Grammar

Anfisa Matsak

41%



of students
reached
Distinguished
Achievers list across
36 subject mentions

90%



Students
received pre-HSC first
round university offers
with **25%** receiving
multiple offers



“Thank you from the very bottom of my heart. The School has an excellent philosophy around learning and the HSC and has nurtured and supported my son so well over his ten years as a student. It has been an amazing journey and we are thrilled that he is heading out into the world with such great prospects, studying Engineering at UNSW.”

Jo

Class of 2021 mum

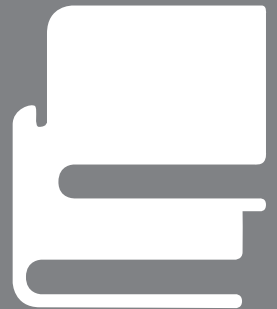
100%

students achieved Bands 5/6 across 10 subjects



25%

students achieved 90+ ATAR



22%

of students enrolled in STEM university courses – **42%** of these are female



1

Girls' College student received Scholarship for Women in Engineering and IT from UTS



Congratulations



We applaud our Class of 2021 and their teachers for the hard work and dedication they have shown through another challenging year of upheaval and disruption. They have all responded with maturity, integrity and respect for each other, exemplifying our HEROIC core values.

Individually, we wish to celebrate our Dux of Boys' Grammar, Jeremy Southwell (ATAR: 98.25) and Dux of Girls' College, Anfisa Matsak (ATAR: 94.1) for their hard work and diligence these past two years.

Commendations also go to the forty-one percent of students who reached the Distinguished Achievers list, achieving Band 6 or a mark of 90+ across 36 subject mentions, including our two Year 11 students who achieved Band 6 results in Studies of Religion.

I am pleased to report that ninety percent of the cohort had received early entry to their chosen university course before they had sat their first exam, with one quarter of those in receipt of multiple university offers.

Of the six students that had not received early entry, four were accepted into courses at universities that do not offer early entry, and two have chosen to pursue opportunities outside of university education.

HSC results alone do not demonstrate the individual academic growth of each of our students, or the care and support provided by staff to ensure each student fulfils their academic potential, particularly following the extended period of remote learning and the delayed exam conditions this year.

Increasingly, universities are selecting students with a more holistic view – certainly including their aptitude to learn, but also their interests and strengths. I commend this cohort for their dedication to community service work, their broad range of interests and pursuits, and the strong leadership skills they have shown.

I encourage you to read the stories of these individuals on the pages that follow, so that you may gain some insight into their experience at Pittwater House, and their bright and evolving futures.

We certainly wish them every success in whatever post-school pathway they choose to take.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nancy Hillier'.

Dr Nancy Hillier

Principal (BA, DipEd, MEdSt, DEd, MACE, MACEL, MAICD)

Anfisa Matsak

Dux of Girls' College
Sydney University – Double Degree
in Law and Economics



What was your favourite subject and why?

My favourite subject in Years 11 and 12 was Economics because it enabled me to think critically and strategically and gain fundamental decision-making skills. Economics taught me the importance of analysing the costs and benefits of each decision and the need to assess those costs and benefits to come up with the most optimal outcome. My fantastic teacher, Ms Leman, made Economics fascinating and entertaining, inspiring me to work hard for it and continue studying it at university.

What co-curricular or other activities/practices did you do to balance your commitment to your studies?

It was crucial for me to balance my lifestyle and participate in different activities during my studies so that I did not focus all my time and attention on academics and burn myself out. I joined the basketball team, which helped me to relax and take a break from the mental work through physical activity. I was also the head of the Sustainability Group which allowed me to gain essential leadership and organisational skills.

How did your teachers contribute to your success?

My teachers taught me the skills and knowledge required for the subject, but also went above and beyond to make sure I understood the topic. As they were so committed to helping me achieve my best results, I maintained a good relationship with them and treated them with respect.

What advice would you give students undertaking their HSC in 2022?

Stay organised, get into a routine and make notes throughout the year so that by the time the exams come up, you are just revising and practising different questions. I would also suggest going through syllabus points for each subject, which can be found on the NESA website, to ensure you are not missing any information.

In 2021 Anfisa was a Northern Beaches Economic Prize recipient, which enabled her to attend last year's Federal Budget announcement at Parliament House with Member for Mackellar, Jason Falinski.

Jeremy Southwell

Dux of Boys' Grammar School



What was your favourite subject and why?

My favourite subject in my final year of school was Extension 2 Maths. I found something really enjoyable and thrilling about trying to tackle really difficult Maths questions because once I finally solved them I felt a major sense of accomplishment.

What was your proudest school moment/achievement?

The moment in my schooling that I look back on with the most pride is when I finished my final HSC exam knowing that I had done the best that I could, and that whatever result I got, I would do well.

How did your peers contribute to your success?

My peers provided me with a great network of support and escape from the occasional stressful reality of school life. Without socialising with my wonderful friends and peers I would never have been able to make it through the HSC with such a positive mindset.

What advice would you give students undertaking their HSC in 2022?

Learn what works for you, take as much information and advice from as many different sources as you can and mould them together to suit your own style in order to maintain a healthy balance.

Currently in Canada doing an Outdoor Adventure Guide Diploma, when Jeremy returns to Sydney he will either study Medicine at Newcastle University or Quantum Engineering at the University of NSW.

Imogen Barnes

University of Technology, Sydney – Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) Software, Diploma of Professional Engineering Practice



What co-curricular or other activities/practices did you do to balance your commitment to your studies?

Throughout my schooling career, I have consistently participated in competitive sports at a state and national level (gymnastics and sprint kayaking). It has taught me discipline, time management and organisational skills which have all assisted me in managing and completing my schoolwork to a high standard.

Participating in sports also helped me take my mind off the stress that comes with schooling, allowed me to socialise and supported my physical and mental wellbeing.

What was your proudest school moment/achievement?

Receiving the Brighton College Ex-Student Prize, awarded for diligence, initiative, leadership and sportsmanship at the end of Year 12.

This award encapsulated who I aspired to be and who I had worked to be through my entire school journey.

What did you learn about yourself over the last year?

The last year has been challenging facing the difficulties of COVID, Year 12, and elite-level sport. However, it has also taught me that I can learn to be adaptable, resilient, and dignified in the face of adversity.

With women comprising just fifteen percent of workforce engineers, we are thrilled for Imogen who has been granted the University of Technology Sydney Scholarship for Women in Engineering and IT, which comprises mentoring, networking, leadership and professional development opportunities.

William Hellawell

European School of Economics in Business Management, Florence, Italy



What co-curricular or other activities/practices did you do to balance your commitment to your studies?

While studying I maintained a healthy balance with co-curricular activities. I volunteered at the State Emergency Service, which was a great experience and taught me a number of skills I will be able to draw on later in life. I also participated in Cadets every Monday which was great for leadership and played competitive football.

How did your peers contribute to your success?

I was lucky enough to befriend an awesome group of mates, who contributed to my success by keeping me cheerful and positive. Kicking a football with them during lunch breaks was something I looked forward to each school day.

Mali Jenkins

Sydney University – Bachelor of Design Computing
with Advanced Studies in Project Management



The Pittwater House structure predominantly provides students with single-sex classes on a co-ed campus, moving to full co-ed classes in Years 11 and 12. What were the benefits of this structure for you?

When Dr Hillier walked into classrooms with parents on tours, she would ask us what we loved about the School. I would always respond saying the single-sex classes! As someone who started at Pittwater House in Year 7, I found it very easy and comfortable to answer questions in class, meet new people and find my bearings in the first few years under this structure. I feel as though gradually moving to a full co-educational model in the later years fully set me up for university and prepared me to be able to communicate and work with everybody.

What was your proudest school moment/achievement?

Receiving the role of Head Prefect for the Girls' College. I was lucky enough to work with some amazing people, and although the COVID lockdown did provide us with challenges at times, I really do believe we left a great impact on the School as a Prefect team.

What advice would you give students undertaking their HSC in 2022?

My biggest advice would be to create a study timetable and stick to it. Make the timetable realistic and set achievable goals to remain motivated. I also found it beneficial to have a paper-based diary/organisation system. I found it really satisfying to hand-write lists and complete all the tasks assigned to me.

Nick Hawkins

Macquarie University –
Bachelor of Marketing and Media



In what way did the challenges of 2020 and 2021 help you grow personally?

The challenges of 2020 and 2021 helped me optimise my time management skills and persistence toward my schooling. As a result of COVID, we experienced several delays to deadlines which was draining and meant that as students we had to continually be in an 'exam mindset' throughout most of Term 3. This meant that we had to be persistent in trying to achieve the best results possible.

What were the highlights of your time at Pittwater House?

Involving myself in any opportunities presented to me. My time as Head Prefect of the Grammar School taught me so many valuable life skills – such as leadership and teamwork – that I will be able to take into my future endeavours. Another stand out was winning the Peninsula Cup with the senior football team in 2020, highlighting the strength of teamwork and dedication.

Mollie Fordham

University of Wollongong – Double Bachelor's Degree in Law and International Studies



Before Mollie had sat her first HSC exam, she had already received offers from five universities and a waitlist from one other.

How did your teachers contribute to your success?

My teachers at Pittwater House contributed to my success by always being available to help me with whatever I needed. Many times during the period of online learning I would email teachers for help, after hours. All my teachers consistently responded within at least an hour, which included either an answer to my question or a date and time for us to go through work together. This was a huge factor which contributed to my success.

What were the highlights of your time at Pittwater House?

Pittwater House has offered me many opportunities throughout my schooling, however my main highlight would have to be the six years I spent involved with the Cadet Unit. The friendships I formed within Cadets and the time that I spent leading as Cadet rank were both unforgettable. Getting the chance to lead younger children through the very same program which undoubtedly shaped me into the person I am today was something that taught me so many life skills, including respect, teamwork, discipline, and organisation. Cadets was truly the highlight of my time at Pittwater House and is something I am so incredibly grateful for.

Tom Quarrie

University of Wollongong – Bachelor of Civil and Mechanical Engineering



What was your favourite subject and why?

My favourite subject in both Year 11 and 12 was Chemistry. I enjoyed the competitive spirit in the class and the overall structure of the lessons, which led me to really enjoy the subject.

What co-curricular or other activities/practices did you do to balance your commitment to your studies?

I mostly focused on outdoor and sport activities such as mountain biking, surfing, basketball and sailing to ensure I had a balanced lifestyle whilst studying in Years 11 and 12, enabling me to have a positive mental attitude to the HSC as the stress of it was minimised.

How did your teachers contribute to your success?

My teachers encouraged me to work harder by setting really high homework and study standards – particularly in Physics, Chemistry and Science Extension. This led to my success in the HSC as it forced me to study more. I was also able to achieve higher marks than some of my peers and it taught me to understand the importance and satisfaction that comes from hard work.

Charlotte Nelson

Macquarie University – Double Bachelor’s Degree
in Primary Education and Psychology



The Pittwater House structure predominantly provides students with single-sex classes on a co-ed campus, moving to full co-ed classes in Years 11 and 12. What were the benefits of this structure for you?

As boys and girls learn using different styles, I think the Pittwater House structure of single-sex classes and co-ed campus is highly beneficial. Particularly in the starting years where it is vital to cater for a child’s specific needs. The co-ed campus is also highly beneficial as it allows everyone to form social bonds without disturbing the classroom setting. For me, this was a perfect balance as I felt comfortable and catered for in the classroom but equally had time to connect and socialise at both lunch and recess.

Overall, how would you describe your time at the School?

My time at Pittwater House has shaped me into the young woman I am today through the endless support, guidance and opportunities they offered. By having smaller class sizes, I was able to create meaningful connections with peers and teachers which allowed me to gain the most out of the crucial senior years. Pittwater House also acknowledges the importance of learning outside of the classroom and demonstrates this through the various opportunities within sports, Performing Arts, Cadets, debating, leadership teams and more. These experiences and learnings have already benefited me since graduating. I would like to thank Pittwater House for the part they played in my life.

In 2021, Charlotte was the Charity Prefect at Pittwater House, successfully supporting six different charities and raising record-breaking donations through events and initiatives, including the Head Above Water Swimathon, the Wayside Chapel Care Packages, The Smith Family Christmas Toy Donations and many others.

Campbell Jones

Macquarie University –
Bachelor of Security Studies



How did your teachers contribute to your success?

My teachers helped me understand the value and importance of independence, which overall helped me throughout Year 12, allowing me to become more proactive in my schooling and minimise my reliance on others for information.

What was your proudest school moment/achievement?

My proudest school moment came when I learned that I had been accepted into my dream course at Macquarie University. I can’t wait to start my Masters in Counter Terrorism! 2020 and 2021 had been such difficult years to overcome, yet we prevailed through all the remote learning.

What advice would you give students undertaking their HSC in 2022?

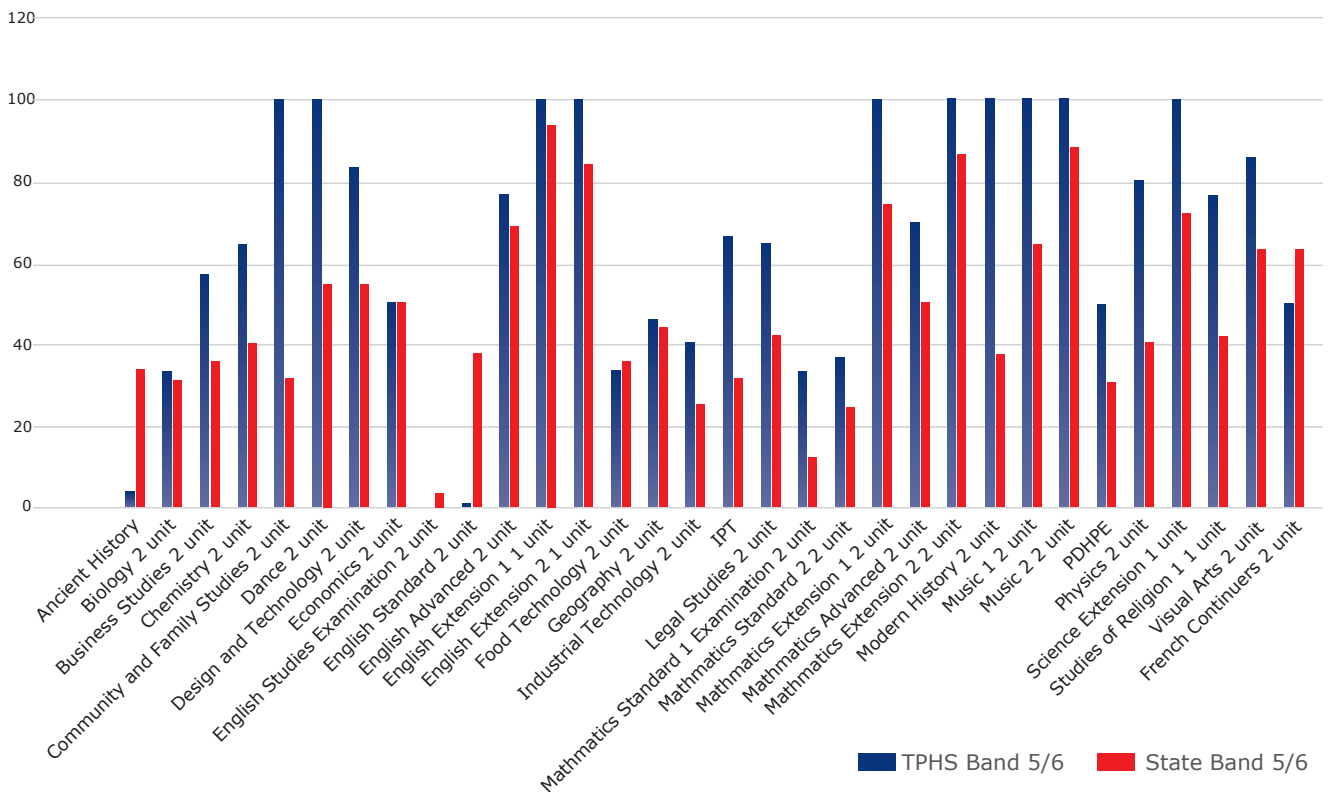
My advice would be to apply for early entry programs into universities throughout the year so that some of the stress of the HSC can be taken off. It is also good to remember that the HSC is just another test, so try not to think of it as the be-all and end-all.



“Notable results were achieved by students in specific subjects, with one hundred percent of students achieving the top two Bands in English Extension 1 (state average 93.63), English Extension 2 (83.86), Mathematics Extension 1 (74.11), Mathematics Extension 2 (86.48), Science Extension 1 (71.96), Modern History (37.59), Dance (54.63), Music 1 (64.24), Music 2 (88.19), and Community and Family Studies (31.53).”

Dr Nancy Hillier
Principal

Pittwater House vs State - Top two Bands





Pittwater House

Want to find out more?

Experience true balance in education first hand. For a Zoom Q and A with Dr. Hillier, our Principal, or a tour of our Campus in action, please contact our Registrar or book online via our website.

Tel: +61 2 9972 5789

enrolments@tphs.nsw.edu.au

www.pittwaterhouse.com.au

Pittwater House
70 South Creek Road,
Collaroy NSW 2097
PO Box 244,
Manly NSW 1655 Australia
tel: + 61 2 9972 5789
fax: + 61 2 9972 5779